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CRITICAL NOTES.

THE MADRID MANUSCRIPT OF LAODICEANS.

THE pseudo-Pauline Letter to the Laodiceans, composed as early as the fourth century, according to Harnack, but in the second, according to Zahn, to displace a heretical letter of that name, is extant in some fifty Latin manuscripts, from Victor's Codex Fuldensis, of the sixth century, down. Harnack's list includes twenty-seven manuscripts,¹ from most of which Lightfoot published readings, and Lightfoot named sixteen others that he had observed in Oxford, Cambridge, and Lambeth libraries.² Four other manuscripts in Spanish libraries are registered in the *Journal of Biblical Literature*, Vol. XXIII, pp. 73-76. One of the more important of the collated manuscripts is the great Gothic Bible formerly at Toledo, but now in the National Library at Madrid, which stands sixth in the lists of Lightfoot and Harnack. It is assigned by Lightfoot to the eighth century, and by Harnack to the tenth. Its text was published in full in Joh. Mariana, *Schol. in Vet. et Nov. Test.*, p. 831, Paris, 1620, and again at Rome in 1740, in Bianchini, *Vind. Canon. Script. Vulg. Lat. Edit.*, p. cxcv, from the copy of Palomares.³ In giving the readings of the Madrid-Toledo manuscript (*Codex Matritensis, olim Tole-tanus*), Lightfoot in his first edition (May, 1875) followed Mariana's text, but abandoned it later, upon observing the difference and evident superiority of the text published by Bianchini. The differences existing between these two published copies of the Madrid manuscript seem to justify the publication of a fresh transcript of its text, made by the writer in the course of a search for patristic manuscripts in the National Library at Madrid, in the autumn of 1903.

The manuscript is a ponderous codex of 375 parchment leaves measuring 33.5 by 43.5 centimeters. They are gathered into forty-seven quires, usually of four double-leaves each, which are numbered in Roman, and apparently also in Arabic, in the middle of the lower margin of the last verso. The leaves are of heavy parchment, with the writing in three

¹ HARNACK, *Geschichte der altchristlichen Litteratur*, Vol. I, pp. 36, 37. The list is largely drawn from Lightfoot.

² LIGHTFOOT, *Colossians* (1890), pp. 282, 283.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 281.

columns of sixty-three lines each, and show a variety of numberings.⁴ There are numerous marginal notes in Arabic throughout the book. A Latin colophon on the last verso indicates that the copy was originally made for Servandus, bishop of Ecija, in the time of the Moors, and was given by him to John, who is said to have been successively bishop of Cartagena, Cordova, and Seville, and who in his turn gave it to Seville cathedral.

The punctuation of the manuscript cannot be perfectly imitated in type, and the abbreviations of Iesus and Christus are, as often, in the Greek form—*ihs*, *xps*.

Fol. 213, verso, col. 3.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Incipit Epistola | |
| ad Laudicenses | Laudi |
| Paulus non hab hominibus | censes |
| neque per hominem sed p(er) Chr(istu)m | |
| ie(su)m. fratribus qui sunt laudociae | |
| gratia vobis et pax a deo | |
| patre. et d(omi)no ie(s)u Chr(ist)o. | |
| Gratias ⁵ ago Chr(ist)o per omnem ⁶ | |
| [[mnem]] ⁷ orationem meam ⁸ . . .] ⁹ | |
| quod p(er)manentes estis in eo. | |
| et p(er)severantes promissum | |
| expectantes in die iudicii . | |
| neque destituit vos quorundam | |
| vaniloquentia insinuantium | |
| [[. .]] ¹⁰ ut vos evertant a veri | |
| tate evangelii quod a me | |
| predicatur : et nunc faciet d(eu)s. | |
| ut qui sunt ex me [.] perveni ¹¹ | |
| ant ad profectum veritatis | |
| evangelii. deservientes . et | |
| facientes benignitatem. | |
| operumq(ue) ¹² salutis vitae aeternae: | |
| et nunc palam sunt vincula | |
| mea. quae patior in Chr(ist)o. | |
| in quibus letor et gaudeo. | |

⁴ The hand is so curious that the attendant who finally found it for me was persuaded that it was a Hebrew manuscript, and brought it to me by way of convincing me that, this being the only remaining biblical manuscript from Toledo that I had not seen, there was in the National Library no such Latin Bible from Toledo as I sought.

⁵ G corr. ⁷ mnem (aut nem ?) del. ⁹ litt. tribus del. ¹¹ per corr.

⁶ mnem corr. ⁸ am corr. ¹⁰ litt. duobus del. ¹² operum q(ue) ?

et hoc mihi est ad salutem
p(er)petuam. quod ipsum fletum

Fol. 214, recto, col. 1.

ad laudicenses

orationibus vestris et adminis-
trantem sp(iritu)m s(an)c(tu)m sive p(er) vitam
sive per mortem.—est enim mihi
vivere vita in Chr(ist)o. et mori
gaudium: et ipsum in vobis
faciet m(i)s(eri)c(o)rdia sua. ut ean-
dem dilectionem habeatis .
et sitis unanimes . Ergo
dilectissimi . ut audistis
praesentiam mei . ita retinete .
et facite cum timore dei. et
erit vobis vita in aeternum:
est enim d(eu)s qui operatur in vobis:

Et facite sine¹³ tractu quod
quumq(ue) facitis. et quod est
dilectissimi gaudete in Chr(ist)o
et praecabete sordidos in lu-
cro homines: Sint petitiones
v(est)rae palam apud d(ominu)m¹⁴: et es-
tote firmi in sensu Chr(ist)i, et quae
integra , et vera , et pudica
et iusta . et amabilia sunt
facite: et quae audistis et
accepistis in corde retinete.
et erit vobis pax:

Salutant vos s(an)c(t)i:

Gratia d(omi)ni n(ost)ri ie(s)u Chr(ist)i cum
sp(iritu) v(est)ro et facite legi colos-
sensium vobis.

Expl(icit) Epist(o)la ad Laudicenses.

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¹³ n *corr.*

¹⁴ d(eu)m ?